THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Unhealthy hospital equipments in Safdarjung Hospital

1946. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been brought to Government's notice that cancer patients in Safdarjung Hospital in Delhi are being treated through outdated and rusty machines which are hazardous both to the patients and to the hospital staff;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been investigated; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof and the action taken on the basis thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) It is not a fact that cancer patients in Safdarjung Hospital are being treated through outdated and rusty machines. Cancer patients receive radiotherapy in the Theratron - 780C unit, which is fully functional. The Dosimeter is available in the Radiotherapy Department.

Under-nourished people in India

1947. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI R.K. ANAND:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the estimated number of under-nourished people in the world is 852 million with India alone contributing 221 million;

(b) if so, the strategy of Government to tackle it; and

(c) if not, what concrete measures are required and how Government propose to monitor its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) According to the Food and Agriculture Organisation's State of Food Insecurity Report (2004), it has been estimated that 852 million people worldwide were under-nourished in 2000-02. In India, the under-nourished were estimated to be 221.1 million during the same period.

The Government has initiated several measures to improve the nutritional status of the people in the country as under:—

- Increased agricultural production.
- Improving the purchasing power of the people through income generating schemes.
- Availability of essential food items at subsidized cost through Public Distribution System.
- Nutrition education to incease the awareness and bringing about the desired changes in the feeding practices including promotion of breast feeding.
- Supplementary Feeding Programmes such as:

(i) Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS).

(ii) Special Nutrition Programme (SNP).

(iii) Balwadi Nutrition Programme (BNP).

(iv) Wheat Based Supplementary Nutrition Programme.

(v) Pradhan Mantri Grameen Yojana (PMGY).

(vi) Mid-day Meal Programme.

- Programme for Prevention of Specific Nutrient Deficiency Disorders such as:

- National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme.
- Programme to prevent blindness due to Vitamin 'A' deficiency and Nutritional Anaemia due to iron deficiency as a part of Reproductive and Child Health Programme.
- Pilot project for control of micronutrient malnutrition.